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Foreword

Wallacea – A Hotspot of Snake Diversity

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Wallacea comprises five main archipelagos, including Sulawesi in the west, the Lesser Sunda Islands in the southwest, and the northern, central and southern Moluccas to the east. Alfred Russel Wallace included this area in his Australo-Malayan Sub-region (Wallace 1876), along with New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, one of four sub-regions in his Australian Region, a definition followed by other authors (Beddard 1895; George 1962; Lincoln *et al.* 1982), although Udvardy (1975) placed Wallacea into his Indomalayan Realm, and New Guinea into Oceania. Darlington (1957) separated the area between the Wallace Line (Wallace 1859; 1860), modified by Huxley (1868), and the Lydekker Line (Lydekker 1896) as distinct from both larger regions or realms. Huxley's modified Wallace Line places the Philippines within Wallacea but here I intend Wallacea to include only those archipelagos listed earlier.

The non-oceanic snake fauna[1] of Wallacea comprises 46 genera, of which five (11%) are endemic (*Cyclotyphlops*, *Sundatyphlops*, *Pseudorabdion*, *Rabdion* and *Brachyorrhos*), and 115 species, of which 67 (58%) are endemic, with an additional 11 endemic subspecies. From the world's 41 extant snake families, 16 (39%) are represented across Wallacea's 347000 km^2 land area. This representation, for a relatively small land area, is impressive when compared with the family counts for seven much larger biogeographical realms[2]: Nearctic – 8; Neotropical – 14; Palaearctic – 11; Afrotropical – 19; Indomalaya – 22; Australasia (excluding Wallacea) – 9, and Oceania – 5 families.

The Indo-Australian Archipelago has long been an area of intense interest for herpetologists (Barbour 1912; de Haas 1950; de Rooij 1915; 1917), and it remains so today (Kaiser *et al*. 2011 2013; Koch 2012; de Lang 2011'; 2013; de Lang & Vogel 2005; O'Shea *et al*. 2012; 2015; Sanchez *et al*. 2012). Those species that also occur extralimitally to Wallacea demonstrate affinities with the snake faunas of mainland Asia, the Philippines, and the Sundaland islands, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, the southwest Pacific, and mainland Australia (see Table 1).

Typhlopidae: Asiatyphlopidae. The typhlopid blindsnakes are represented in Wallacea by one subfamily, five genera and ten species. The most widely distributed species is the famous "flowerpot snake", *Indotyphlops braminus*, so named because, as the world's only obligate parthenogenetic snake species, it has been transported circumglobally in the root balls of soil surrounding horticultural and crop plants and become a super-coloniser, establishing beachhead populations far from its origin in South Asia. Even though this tiny snake is the most widely distributed terrestrial snake, most of its 23 congeners are confined to mainland Asia, except *I. schmutzi*, which is endemic to Flores and the Komodo Islands in the Lesser Sundas.

The genus *Malayotyphlops* is centred on the Philippines with 10 of its 12 species endemic to that archipelago, but two species occur in Indonesia, *M. koekkoeki* on Bunyu Island, North Kalimantan, and *M. kraali* in the Kei Islands and Seram in the Moluccas. The latter taxon is quite possibly two separate species. Half of all blindsnakes in Wallacea belong to the genus *Ramphotyphlops*, with five species on

1 Sea kraits (*Laticauda*) and true seasnakes (*Hydrophis*) are omitted.
2 Antarctica is omitted.

Sulawesi and in the Moluccas, and 16 species distributed from the Malay Peninsula to the Caroline Islands and New Caledonia.

The final two blindsnake genera are both monotypic (Hedges *et al.* 2014), and endemic to Wallacea. *Sundatyphlops polygrammicus* is represented by five subspecies distributed from Lombok to Timor. It is most closely related to *Anilios*, an Australo-Papuan genus that contains two elevated former subspecies of *polygrammicus*. Sulawesi is home to *Cyclotyphlops deharvengi*, a tiny snake with a distinctive circular frontal scale on top of its head.

Gerrhopilidae. This blindsnake family was elevated from within the Typhlopidae, based on molecular data (Vidal *et al.* 2010). It contains two genera, the monotypic *Cathetorhinus*, believed to come from Mauritius, and *Gerrhopilus*, a genus of 20 species distributed from India to the Philippines and Papua New Guinea. A single widespread Indonesian species, *G. ater*, is recorded in Wallacea, from Sulawesi, and Halmahera and Ternate in the northern Moluccas.

Cylindrophiidae. Asian pipesnakes, genus *Cylindrophis*, include 15 species, mostly endemic to Southeast Asia, excluding the Philippines, but with a single Sri Lankan species. Wallacea is clearly a hotspot for *Cylindrophis* with eight species recorded from the Lesser Sundas, Sulawesi and the Moluccas. These include the widely distributed Southeast Asian *C. ruffus* and the Wallacean endemics: *C. aruensis*, *C. boulengeri*, *C. isolepis*, *C. melanotus*, *C. opisthorhodus*, and *C. yamdena*. The most recently described Wallacean species was *C. osheai* from Boano Island to the northwest of Seram and named for this author (Kieckbusch *et al.* 2018).

Xenopeltidae. This monotypic South and Southeast Asian family contains only two species of iridescent-scaled sunbeam snakes. One species is endemic to Hainan Island, China, but the other species, *Xenopeltis unicolor*, is widely distributed, from India to China, and enters Wallacea on Sulawesi, and neighbouring Buton Island.

Pythonidae. The pythons are very well represented in Wallacea. The most iconic and widely distributed species, and also the longest snake in the world, is the reticulated python, *Malayopython reticulatus*, which occurs from the Southeast Asian mainland to the Philippines, as far north as Itbayat Island, and south to Sulawesi, the Lesser Sundas, and the Moluccas, with two endemic, insular subspecies on Selayar and Tanahjampea Islands, south of Sulawesi (Auliya *et al*. 2002). Its sister taxon is *M. timoriensis*, which inhabits Flores and other Inner Banda Arc islands, but, despite its name, not Timor in the Outer Banda Arc. The correct common name for this species should therefore be Lesser Sunda or Flores python, rather than Timor python. Recent molecular research (Reynolds *et al*. 2014) has demonstrated that *Malayopython* is more closely related to the Australo-Papuan pythons of the genera *Morelia* and *Simalia*, than to the Afro-Asian pythons, genus *Python*.

Simalia is represented in the Moluccas by four species. S*imalia tracyae* in the northern Moluccas, *S. clastolepis* in the central Moluccas, and *S. nauta* in the southern Moluccas (Harvey *et al.* 2000), while a widespread Australo-Papuan species, *S. amethistina*, inhabits a few small islands at the eastern edge of Wallacea. The genus *Liasis* is also Australo-Papuan, but one species is endemic to the Lesser Sundas. *Liasis mackloti* is a water python commonly encountered on Timor and Alor, with subspecies on Wetar, *L. m. dunni*, and Sawu, *L. m. savuensis*. Some authorities elevate these two island endemics to specific status.

The only truly Asian python in Wallacea is the Burmese python, *Python bivittatus*. Primarily distributed across northern India and Nepal to China, and south to Thailand and Vietnam, but absent from the Malay Peninsula, Borneo and Sumatra, isolated populations are known from east Java, Nusa Barang, and Bali, and within Wallacea from Sumbawa and south Sulawesi, this last population being allocated subspecific status as *P. b. progschai* (Jacobs *et al.* 2009).

Candoiidae. The five species of Pacific boas are primarily distributed from New Guinea, north to Palau,

south to the Loyalty Islands, and as far east as Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and Tokelau (Smith *et al.* 2001). Two New Guinean species extend their ranges eastwards to the Talaud and Sangihe Islands north of Sulawesi. *Candoia paulsoni tasmai* is an endemic Moluccan subspecies of the Solomon Islands ground boa, *C. paulsoni*, otherwise known from Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, but not from intervening western New Guinea. The other taxon present is the widespread and gracile New Guinea tree boa, *C. carinata carinata*.

Acrochordidae. The three species of highly aquatic Asian filesnake genus *Acrochordus* are so named because of their strange loose-skinned, baggy bodies covered with tuberculate scales (McDowell 1979), which distinguish them apart from all other living snakes. The two largest species, *A. javanicus* from mainland Southeast Asia and Sundaland, and *A. arafurae* from northern Australia and southern New Guinea, are freshwater inhabitants of slow-moving watercourses, but their smaller, widely distributed, saltwater-dwelling relative, *A. granulatus*, has been recorded throughout Wallacea, excluding the southern Moluccas.

Calamariidae. This family was until recently a subfamily of the Colubridae (see below) and its largest genus, with 64 species, is *Calamaria,* the reedsnakes. Sulawesi is home to eleven endemic *Calamaria*, and one widespread Indo-Philippine species, while a further endemic, *C. ceramensis*, inhabits Seram and Ambon. The dwarf reedsnake genus *Pseudorabdion* contains 15 species, mostly in the Philippines and Southeast Asia, but two species, *P. sarasinorum* and *P. torquatum*, are endemic to Sulawesi.

Two further genera, *Calamorhabdium* and *Rabdion*, are endemic to Wallacea. *Calamorhabdium acuticeps*, *R. forsteni*, and *R. grovesi* are endemic to Sulawesi while *C. kuekenthali* is endemic to Bacan Island in the northern Moluccas.

Colubridae: Ahaetullinae. This subfamily contains five genera of Asian and Australasian treesnakes, three of which enter Wallacea. Genus *Ahaetulla* contains 17 species of vinesnakes, one of the most widely distributed being *A. prasina*, which occurs as four subspecies, from India to the Philippines. The nominate subspecies is present on Lombok, Sumbawa, Sulawesi and in the northern Moluccas. Of the five flying snakes, genus *Chrysopelea*, two species are recorded within Wallacea (Mertens 1968). The eastern subspecies of *C. paradisi*, *C. p. celebensis,* is present on Sulawesi, while *C. rhodopleuron* inhabits eastern Wallacea: the nominate form from Bacan to Tanimbar, with a subspecies, *C. r. viridis* endemic to the Sangihe Islands, north of Sulawesi.

The largest genus in the Ahaetullinae is *Dendrelaphis* with 47 species, whose members are known as bronzebacks in Asia and as treesnakes in Australasia. Eight species occur in Wallacea, including the Asian *D. pictus*, the Philippine *D. marenae*, and the Australo-Papuan *D. calligastra.* The other five species are Wallacean endemics, including *D. inornatus* in the Lesser Sundas, with two subspecies, *D. terrificus* on Sulawesi, and *D. modestus, D. grismeri* and *D. keiensis* in the northern, central and southern Moluccas respectively (Vogel & van Rooijen 2008; van Rooijen & Vogel 2012).

Colubridae: Colubrinae. This large colubrid subfamily is represented in Wallacea by seven genera, mostly of Asian origin. The nocturnal and highly arboreal catsnake genus *Boiga* contains 35 Asian and two Australasian species. The mostly widely distributed Asian species is *B. dendrophila*, which comprises nine subspecies, only one of which, *B. d. gemmicincta*, occurs east of the Wallace Line on Sulawesi (Brongersma 1934). An equally widely distributed Australo-Papuan species is the brown treesnake*, Boiga irregularis*, which inhabits northern Australia, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, which was accidentally introduced to Guam following the Second World War and where it has had a catastrophic effect on the native avifauna (Rodda *et al*. 1999). It also occurs in the Moluccas and on Sulawesi. The two remaining *Boiga* species are Wallacean endemics, *B. hoeseli* from the Lesser Sundas and *B. tanahjampeana* from Tanahjampea Island, south of Sulawesi.

Six species of ratsnakes inhabit Wallacea. The genus *Coelognathus* is represented by one species in the Lesser Sundas, *C. subradiatus*, and two species on Sulawesi*, C. flavolineatus* and *C. erythrurus*,

the latter represented by an endemic subspecies, *C. e. celebensis*. Sulawesi is also home to two endemic ratsnake species, *Gonyosoma jansenii* and *Ptyas dipsas*, while the widely distributed Asian ratsnake, *G. oxycephalum*, is one of several Asian snake species that are recorded no farther east than Lombok.

The Asian wolfsnake genus *Lycodon* contains 67 species, three of which occur in Wallacea. *Lycodon capucinus* is a perianthropic Southeast Asian species that has been distributed as far as New Guinea (O'Shea *et al.* 2018), and remote Pacific and Indian Ocean islands. *Lycodon subcinctus* occurs throughout the Lesser Sundas and it is probably the snake behind the stories of the "Timor krait" due to its black-and-white banded patterning. There is a single Wallacean endemic, *L. stormi* on Sulawesi. The Asian kukri snakes, *Oligodon*, are named for their sharp, kukri-like teeth which are used to slice into reptile eggs - or for its effective defence against unware herpetologists. With 83 species this is the world's second most diverse snake genus. Four species occur in Wallacea, one Javanese species, *O. bitorquatus*, on Sumbawa, and three Wallacean endemics: *O. forbesi* and *O. unicolor*, in the southern Moluccas, and *O. waandersi* on Sulawesi and in the central Moluccas.

All these colubrine genera are primarily Asian in their origin and diversity, but one important Australo-Papuan colubrine genus is also present in Wallacea. The groundsnake genus *Stegonotus* is the Australo-Papuan equivalent of the Asian wolfsnakes *Lycodon*, and the genus is currently the subject of considerable taxonomic revision. At the time of writing the genus contains 25 species (Kaiser *et al.* 2018; 2019; 2020; O'Shea & Richards 2021). Fourteen species inhabit New Guinea, two occur on Borneo, and one each are known from the Philippines and Australia. The remaining seven species are Wallacean endemics, including the northern Moluccas, *S. batjanensis*; central Moluccas, *S. modestus*; Kei Islands, *S. keiensis*; Aru Islands, *S. aruensis*; Flores, *S. florensis*; Sumba; *S. sutteri*, and Semau, *S. lividus*. The description of a new species from Timor-Leste is in preparation.

Pseudaspididae. This is a small family containing three genera and four species from Africa and Asia. The Asian representatives belong to the genus *Psammodynastes* and are known as "mock vipers" because of their viperine appearance and behaviour. The most widely distributed species, *P. pulverulentus*, occurs from India and China, through the Sundaland and Philippine archipelagos, and into Wallacea where it is recorded from Sulawesi, the Sula and Togian Islands, and Sumba and Sumbawa in the Lesser Sundas.

Sibynophiidae. The Sibynophiidae is still treated as a subfamily of the Colubridae by some authors. It is a small family, containing three genera, two Asian and one American. The largest is *Sibynophis* with nine species distributed from India to China, and south into Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Only *S. geminatus* enters Wallacea, on Lombok.

Pareidae. There are slug- and snail-eaters throughout the world's tropics, and herpetologists colloquially refer to the guild as the "goo-eaters". The Pareidae contains four genera of Asian slug-eaters, the largest being *Pareas*, with twenty species, but only *P. carinatus* has been recorded in Wallacea, from Lombok.

Natricidae. Another former subfamily of the Colubridae, the Natricidae contains the freshwater-dwelling keelbacks and watersnakes, including familiar genera like *Natrix* in Europe and *Thamnophis* and *Nerodia* in North America. Not all species are benign, however, and *Rhabdophis tigrinus* has caused fatalities in Japan, with serious bites also attributed to *R. subminiatus* from mainland Southeast Asia.

Three of the four genera present in Wallacea are of Asian origin, and one is more Australo-Papuan. *Hebius* is a large Asian genus with 44 species, of which two occur on Sulawesi and neighbouring islands, including *H. sarasinorum* and *H. celebicum*. Genus *Rhabdophis* contains 27 species, with three entering Wallacea. *Rhabdophis chrysargoides* is widespread on Sulawesi and its satellite islands, while *R. callistus* is endemic to north Sulawesi. A single specimen of *R. chrysargos* has been collected from Flores, but the species is widespread west of the Wallace Line. *Xenochrophis trianguligerus* is also widespread west of the Wallace Line, but in Wallacea it is limited to Sulawesi and its satellite islands.

In the Moluccas the influence of the Australo-Papuan keelback genus *Tropidonophis* is strongly in evidence. The genus contains 19 species, 12 of which are endemic to New Guinea or New Britain, one is Australo-Papuan, two are Philippine endemics and the final four inhabit the Moluccas, including *T. elongatus*, on Seram and Ambon, and *T. truncatus*, *T. halmahericus*, and *T. punctiventris* on Halmahera and its neighbours (Malnate & Underwood 1988). The first two of these species occur extralimitally in western New Guinea, while the latter two are Wallacean endemics.

Homalopsidae. Another unique Indo-Australian family, the Homalopsidae contains 29 genera and 56 species (Murphy & Voris 2014). Most members are rear-fanged and mildly venomous, aquatic, marine, brackish, or freshwater inhabitants, although the family also contains three genera of fangless terrestrial snakes from the Moluccas, western New Guinea, and Sumatra, which were for a long time considered *incertae sedis*. The four Moluccan species, known as short-tailed snakes, belong to the genus *Brachyorrhos*, the fifth endemic Wallacean genus. *Brachyorrhos albus* inhabits Seram, Ambon, Nusa Laut, and Bisa; *B. gastrotaenius* occurs on Buru*, B. raffrayi* on Ternate, and *B. wallacei* on Halmahera (Murphy *et al.* 2012), although perhaps these last two should have been named the other way around since Wallace had his famous 'eureka moment' on Ternate. The genus *Hypsiscopus* contains two species of freshwater aquatic watersnakes, and both are found on Sulawesi. *Hypsiscopus plumbea* is widespread west of the Wallace's Line, while *H. matannensis* is a Wallacean endemic.

Two of the other Wallacean homalopsids are widespread Indo-Australian species, *Cerberus schneiderii* and *Fordonia leucobalia*, the former preying on mudskippers and frogs, the latter feeding on freshly moulted crabs or mud lobsters. *Cerberus* will enter rice paddies but *Fordonia* is a purely mangrove and estuarine dweller. Another mangrove swamp inhabitant occurs in the extreme southeast of Wallacea, *Myron karnsi*, a small piscivorous species endemic to the Aru Islands.

Elapidae: Elapinae. The Elapinae is the subfamily containing the cobras, kraits, and coralsnakes of Asia, cobras and mambas of Africa, and coralsnakes of the Americas. Only two species extend their ranges into Wallacea. The Indonesian spitting cobra, *Naja sputatrix*, occurs in the Lesser Sundas, in the Inner Banda Arc islands as far east as Alor. The king cobra, *Ophiophagus hannah*, the longest venomous snake in the world, is the only terrestrial elapid recorded from Sulawesi and its satellite islands, Buton, and Peleng in the Banggai Islands.

Elapidae: Hydrophiinae. The second elapid subfamily is the Hydrophiinae. It contains all terrestrial venomous snakes from Australia, New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and Fiji, and the marine seasnakes and sea kraits (these latter groups are omitted from this discussion). Death adders, genus *Acanthophis*, are short, squat, nocturnal, sit-and-wait ambushers that occupy the vacant "viper niche" across Australia and New Guinea, and both New Guinean species also occur in Wallacea. *Acanthophis laevis* is a smooth-scaled species that occurs throughout New Guinea and extends its range into the Moluccas, where it is found from the Obi Islands, through Seram and its satellites, to the Kei and Aru Islands. The rough-scaled *A. rugosus* has a limited range in southern New Guinea, but it too has been recorded from the Moluccas, on the Tanimbar Islands. Only one other New Guinea elapid is represented in Wallacea. Müller's crowned snake *Aspidomorphus muelleri,* is widely distributed throughout New Guinea, and it has also been collected on Seram in the central Moluccas.

Viperidae: Crotalinae. The pitvipers inhabit the Americas and Asia, and they are well presented in the Philippines and Sundaland, and three endemic species also inhabit Wallacea. The Island pitviper, *Trimeresurus insularis*, inhabits virtually every island in the Lesser Sundas, as far east as Romang and Kisar Islands, which, along with Timor, represent the closest viper populations to Australia. A second species, *T. fasciatus*, is endemic to Tanahjampea Island and is the fourth endemic snake species on that small (< 200 km^2) island. The famous temple pitvipers of Malaysia and the Philippines are also represented in Wallacea, by the endemic Sulawesi temple pitviper, *Tropidolaemus laticinctus*, which is distributed island wide, and also found on Buton Island in the south and the Sangihe Islands in the north.

Viperidae: Viperinae. Perhaps one of the least likely snakes to occur in Wallacea is the eastern Russell's

viper, *Daboia siamensis*. The Viperinae is a group primarily associated with Europe, the Middle East and Africa, but two species occur further east. The western Russell's viper, *D. russelii*, inhabits most of South Asia, including Sri Lanka, while the eastern Russell's viper demonstrates a much patchier distribution. It has large but disjunct ranges in Myanmar and Thailand, and smaller ranges in southern China, Taiwan, and eastern Java. Populations of this highly venomous snake, probably the most dangerous snake in the region, are also located on Sumbawa and the Komodo Islands (Thorpe *et al*. 2007).

From the above it is clear that Wallacea is home to an eclectic assortment of snake families, genera, and species, and that it illustrates elements of the much larger regions that surround it, plus a few endemic Wallacean taxa for good measure.

Table 1. **Snake genera of Wallacea.**

Legends: T/W/E – Total species in genus / Species in Wallacea/Endemic species in Wallacea.
Extralimital distribution: AF – Africa; AR – Arabia; AU – Australia; EA – East Asia; EM – Eastern Melanesia (Samoa, Fiji); IC – Indochina; MI – Micronesia (Palau, Caroline Is.); NC – New Caledonia; NG – New Guinea; PH – Philippines; SA – South Asia; SL – Sundaland (Borneo, Sumatra, Java, Bali); SO – Solomons; WA – Western Asia; Introduced populations of *Indotyphlops braminus* worldwide, *Python bivittatus* in Florida, *Boiga irregularis* on Guam, and *Lycodon capucinus* on Indian & Pacific Ocean islands are not listed.
Wallacean archipelagos: LS – Lesser Sundas; SU – Sulawesi; NM – northern Moluccas (Halmahera and satellites); CM – Central Moluccas (Seram and satellites); SM – southern Moluccas (Kei, Aru, Tanimbar islands and satellites). Numbers in the columns indicate the number of species present.

Taxon	T/W/E	Extralimital distribution	LS	SU	NM	CM	SM
TYPHLOPIDAE: ASIATYPHLOPINAE							
Cyclotyphlops	1/1/1	Endemic to Sulawesi		1			
Indotyphlops	24/1/1	SA, IC, EA, SL (excl. *I. braminus*)	2	1	1	1	1
Malayotyphlops	12/1/1	PH, SL				1	1
Ramphotyphlops	16/5/2	IC, SL, PH, NG, SO, NC, MI (Palau, Carolines)		2	2	2	2
Sundatyphlops	1/1/1	Endemic to Lesser Sundas	1				
GERRHOPILIDAE							
Gerrhopilus	20/1/0	SA, IC, SL (Java), PH, NG		1	1		
CYLINDROPHIIDAE							
Cylindrophis	15/8/7	SA (Sri Lanka), IC EA, SL	3	3	1	1	3
XENOPELTIDAE							
Xenopeltis	2/1/0	SA, IC, EA, SL		1			
PYTHONIDAE							
Liasis	3/1/1	AU, NG	1				1
Malayopython	2/2/1	IC, PH, SL	2	1	1	1	1
Python	9/1/0	AF, SA, IC, SL	1	1			
Simalia	6/4/3	AU, NG			2	1	2
CANDOIIDAE							
Candoia	5/2/0	NG, SO, NC (Loyalty Is.), EM, MI (Palau)		2	1	1	1
ACROCHORDIDAE							
Acrochordus	3/1/0	SA, IC, SL, NG, AU	1	1	1	1	
CALAMARIIDAE							
Calamaria	93/12/11	SA, IC, PH, SL		11		1	
Calamorhabdium	2/2/2	Endemic to Sulawesi & Moluccas		1	1		
Pseudorabdion	15/2/2	IC, PH, SL		2			
Rabdion	2/2/2	Endemic to Sulawesi		2			
COLUBRIDAE: AHAETULLINAE							
Ahaetulla	17/1/0	SA, IC, PH, SL	1	1	1		
Chrysopelea	5/2/0	SA, IC, SL, PH		2	1	1	1
Dendrelaphis	47/8/4	SA, IC, EA, PH, SL, NG, SO, AU, MI (Palau)	2	2	2	1	2

Table 1 (continuation)

Taxon	T/W/E	Extralimital distribution	LS	SU	NM	CM	SM
COLUBRIDAE: COLUBRINAE							
Boiga	37/4/2	WA, SA, IC, EA, PH, SL, NG, SO, AU	1	3	1	1	1
Coelognathus	7/3/0	SA, IC, SL, PH	1	2			
Gonyosoma	6/2/1	SA, IC, SL, PH	1	1			
Lycodon	67/3/1	WA, SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	2	2		1	1
Oligodon	83/4/3	WA, SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	1	1	1		2
Ptyas	13/1/1	WA, SA, IC, EA, SL, PH		1			
Stegonotus	24/7/7	NG, AU, SL, PH	3		1	2	2
PSEUDASPIDIDAE							
Psammodynastes	2/1/0	SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	1	1	1		
SIBYNOPHIIDAE							
Sibynophis	9/1/0	SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	1				
PAREIDAE							
Pareas	20/1/0	SA, IC, EA, SL	1				
NATRICIDAE							
Hebius	47/2/2	SA, IC, EA, SL		2	1		
Rhabdophis	27/3/1	SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	1	2			
Tropidonophis	19/4/2	NG, AU, PH			4	1	
Xenochrophis	5/1/0	SA, IC, SL		1			
HOMALOPSIDAE							
Brachyorrhos	4/4/4	Endemic to Moluccas			3	2	1
Cerberus	5/1/0	SA, IC, SL, PH, NG, AU, MI (Palau)	1	1	1	1	
Fordonia	1/1/0	SA, IC, SL, PH, NG, AU	1			1	
Hypsiscopus	2/2/1	SA, IC, EA, SL		2			
Myron	3/1/1	NG, AU					1
ELAPIDAE: ELAPINAE							
Naja	33/1/0	AF, AR, WA, SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	1				
Ophiophagus	1/1/0	SA, IC, EA, SL, PH		1			
ELAPIDAE: HYDROPHIINAE							
Acanthophis	8/2/0	AU, NG			1	1	2
Aspidomorphus	3/1/0	NG				1	
VIPERIDAE: CROTALINAE							
Trimeresurus	51/2/2	SA, IC, EA, SL, PH	1	1			1
Tropidolaemus	5/1/1	SA (south India), IC, SL, PH		1			
VIPERIDAE: VIPERINAE							
Daboia	4/1/0	AF, WA, SA, IC, EA (China, Taiwan), SL (Java)	1				
		Total species per archipelago	**31**	**57**	**29**	**23**	**26**

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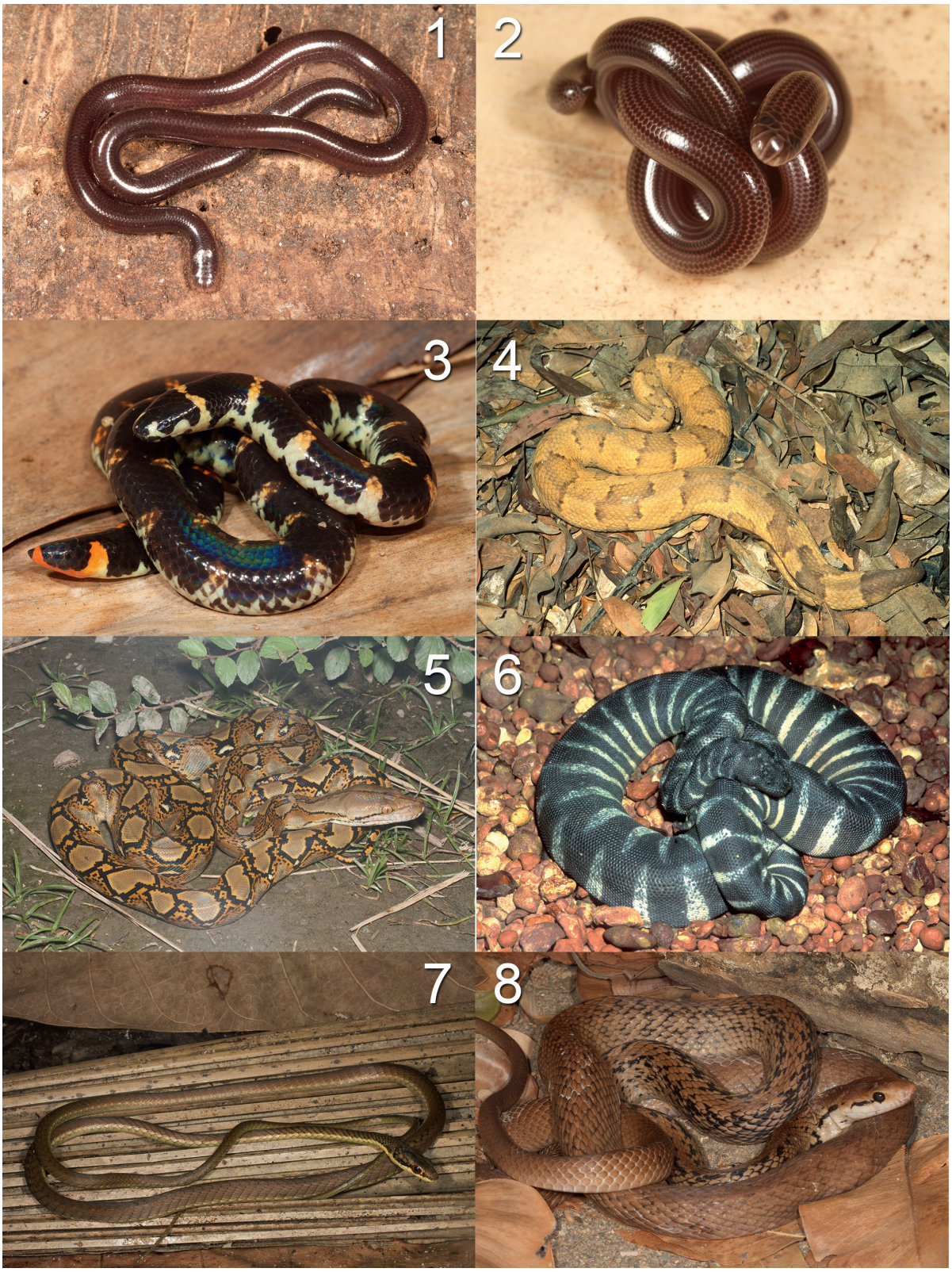
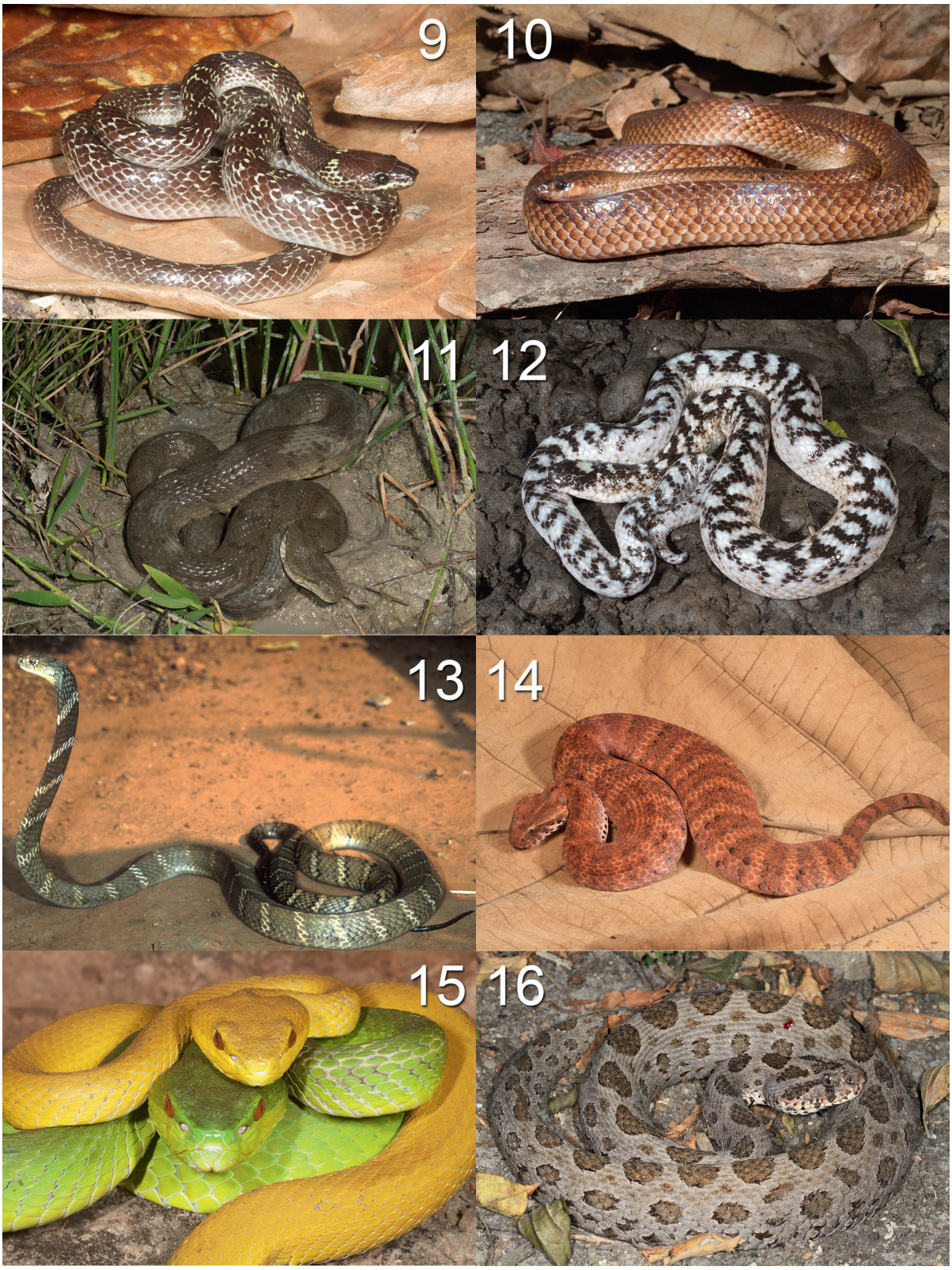


Figures 1–8. Snakes of Wallacea. 1 – Brahminy blindsnake, *Indotyphlops braminus*, aka the parthenogenetic "flowerpot snake" distributed worldwide; 2 – Timor blindsnake, *Sundatyphlops polygrammicus*, a species with five subspecies in the Lesser Sundas, this being the Timorese form; 3 – Timor pipesnake, *Cylindrophis boulengeri*, one of seven Wallacean endemic pipesnakes; 4 – New Guinea ground boa, *Candoia aspera*, a species that also occurs in the northern Moluccas; 5 – Reticulated python, *Malayopython reticulatus*, the longest snake in the world reaches at its southeastern extreme on Timor; 6 – Little filesnake, *Acrochordus granulatus*, a coastal species widely distributed across Wallacea; 7 – Lesser Sunda bronzeback, *Dendrelaphis inornatus*, with Inner and Outer Banda species, this being the Timorese subspecies; 8 – Lesser Sunda ratsnake, *Coelognathus subradiatus*, which inhabits the Lesser Sundas and also Enggano Island off Sumatra.



Figures 9–16. Snakes of Wallacea. 9 – Island wolfsnake, *Lycodon capucinus*, is a widely distributed species that is introduced to many islands; 10 – Timor groundsnake, *Stegonotus* sp. nov., the species description is in preparation; 11 – Dog-faced watersnake, *Cerberus schneideri*, a common mangrove and coastal rice-paddy species in Timor; 12 – Crab-eating mangrove snake, *Fordonia leucobalia*, a widespread and highly variable mangrove swamp species; 13 – King cobra, *Ophiophagus hannah*, the longest venomous snake in the world, this specimen from India; 14 – Smooth-scaled death adder, *Acanthophis laevis*, from New Guinea but also present on Seram and neighbouring islands; 15 – Island pitviper, *Trimeresurus insularis*, green specimens inhabit Timor-Leste, yellow specimens also occur in eastern Timor-Leste, and on Wetar, while Komodo specimens are green or cyan in colour; 16 – Eastern Russel's viper, *Daboia siamensis*, from the Komodo Islands, the most dangerous snake in Wallacea.